LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1.   (Previously Presented) A system for rendering media content comprising:

        a first platform for storing media content at a subscriber location, wherein the media content comprises an unrenderable state due to digital rights associated with the content when received by the first platform;

        a second platform at the subscriber location communicatively coupled with the first platform for rendering the stored media content;

        a discovery service operable to search for and download stored media content content based on a content profile;

        the first and second platforms cooperatively providing an interface for purchasing a right to render the stored media content at least one time; and

        at least one of the first platform and the second platform being operable to convert the stored media content to a renderable state upon the purchase of the right to render.

2.   (Original) The system of claim 1 further comprising:

        a distribution server connected to at least one of the first and second platforms and to at least one content source, the distribution server being operable to receive requests for content and to responsively retrieve content from the content sources.

3.   (Original) The system of claim 1 further comprising:

        a distribution server connected to at least one of the first and second platforms and to at least one content source, the distribution server being operable to track the usage of the content.

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4.   (Original) The system of claim 1 further comprising:

        a distribution server connected to at least one of the first and second platforms and to at least one content source, the distribution server being operable to track the payment of the content.

5.   (Original) The system of claim 1 further comprising:

        a distribution server connected to at least one of the first and second platforms and to at least one content source, the distribution server being operable to track the commerce of the content.

6.   (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the first platform comprises a digital video recorder device that includes a storage device for storing the media content.

7.   (Original) The system of claim 6, wherein the storage device comprises a hard disk drive.

8.   (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the first platform comprises a personal computer that includes a storage device for storing the media content.

9.   (Original) The system of claim 8, wherein the storage device comprises an optical storage device.

10.   (Original) The system of claim 9, wherein the optical storage device comprises a digital versatile disk (DVD) drive.

11.   (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the unrenderable state comprises a first level of encryption that protects the media content from unauthorized rendering.

12.   (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein the media content is contained in a broadcast signal and the unrenderable state comprises a second level of encryption that protects the media content from unauthorized reception and storage.

13.   (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the broadcast is one of an over-the-air broadcast, a cable broadcast, an Internet broadcast and a satellite broadcast.

14.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 1, wherein the first platform comprises a dedicated media storage and serving device comprising:

a storage device for retaining the media content;

a registry including one or more parameters corresponding with functional attributes of the second platform;

a network interface communicatively coupled to at least one of a media content source and to the second platform; and

a media content manager that provides for the purchase of the right to render the media content, management of rendering of the media content including enforcing digital

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rights associated with the media content, and controlling rendering of the media content in accordance with terms of the purchase.

15.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 14 wherein the first platform comprises:

a decryptor for decrypting the media content prior to, at least one of rendering the media content with the first platform, and communication of the media content to the second platform; and

a transcoder for translating the media from a first format to a second format, the first platform being further operable to render content from the second format.

16.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 15 wherein the first platform comprises:

a discovery service operable to search for content and to download content based on a content profile.

17.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 1, wherein the first platform comprises an encryptor that encrypts the media content prior to communication of the media content to the second platform and the second platform comprises a corresponding decryptor that decrypts the encryption of the media content performed by the first platform prior to rendering the media content.

18.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 1, wherein the second platform comprises:

a media rendering device;

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a local discovery service that communicates with the first platform to determine composition of the media content;

a media communication interface for communicating with the first platform;

a guide renderer for displaying a list of titles corresponding with portions of the media content that the media rendering device can render; and

a decoder that converts the media content from an encoded format to a format that corresponds with the media rendering device.

19.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 1, wherein the media content is received via one or more of the Internet, an over-the-air transmission, a cable television transmission, a digital satellite system transmission, and an optical storage media.

20.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 1, wherein the second platform comprises a multiple format digital versatile disk player.

21.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 1, wherein the second platform comprises a personal audio player.

22.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 1, wherein the second platform comprises a high-definition television.

23.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 1, wherein the second platform comprises a digital audio receiver.

24.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 1, wherein the second platform comprises a digital video recorder.

25.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 1, wherein the second platform comprises an audio/video device comprising a decoder for converting the media content from an encoded format to a decoded, renderable format.

26.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 1, further comprising a router/network hub that operatively connects the first platform and the second platform.

27.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 26, wherein the router/network hub receives information from the Internet comprising an electronic program guide, wherein the information from the Internet is communicated to at least one of the first platform and the second platform.

28.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 27, wherein the information from the Internet is received over one of a digital subscriber line, a data-over-cable system, a dial-up connection and a satellite connection.

29.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 26, wherein the operative connection comprises a packet-based data network.

30.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 26, wherein the operative connection comprises a wireless connection.

31.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 30, wherein the wireless connection comprises a wireless connection in accordance with the IEEE 802.11 standard.

32.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 26, wherein the operative connection comprises a firewire connection in accordance with the IEEE 1394 standard.

33.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 1, further comprising a rendering controller that provides for modifying the manner in which the media content is rendered, wherein the rendering controller is implemented with at least one of the first platform and the second platform.

34.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 33, wherein the rendering controller provides for:

          stopping rendering of the media content;

          pausing rendering of the media content;

          returning to a previously rendered point of the media content and resumption of rendering from the previously rendered point;

          resuming rendering of the media content after stopping or pausing; and

          skipping portions of the media content and resuming rendering of the media content from a point that occurs later in the media content.

35.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 34, wherein resuming rendering of the media content comprises resuming rendering using the second platform when rendering of the media content was paused or stopped on the first platform.

36.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 1, wherein the media content comprises:

       audio content; and

       combined audio /video content.

37.   (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the media content is stored on the first platform in a compressed format.

38.   (Original) The system of claim 37, wherein the compressed format comprises a format in accordance with one of the MPEG-1 standard, the MPEG-2 standard and the MPEG-4 standard.

39.   (Original) The system of claim 38, wherein the compressed format comprises a compressed audio format in accordance with layer 3 of the MPEG-1 standard.

40.   (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the first platform comprises:

       a digital video recorder having a storage device for retaining, at least a portion, of the media content;

       a personal computer operatively coupled with the digital video recorder, wherein the personal computer provides for:

       the purchase of the right to render the media content;

management of rendering of the media content including:

enforcing digital rights associated with the media content; and

controlling rendering of the media content in correspondence with terms of the

purchase.

41.   (Withdrawn) A system for rendering media content on a pay-per-play basis comprising:

a first platform at a subscriber location having at least one input device for
receiving media content for purchase from a content source, wherein the received content
comprises encrypted and encoded information that is unrenderable due to digital rights
associated with the received content;

a discovery service operable to search for and download media content based on a
content profile;

a storage device operatively coupled with the first platform, wherein the storage
device retains the received content;

a second platform at a subscriber location operatively coupled with the first
platform and the storage device, wherein the second platform comprises an interface for
purchasing the digital rights to render the received content; and

wherein the first platform communicates the received content to the second
platform, and the second platform renders the received content when purchased.

42.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 41, wherein the input device of the first platform
comprises a cable receiver.

43.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 41, wherein the input device of the first platform comprises a digital satellite receiver.

44.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 41, wherein the input device of the first platform comprises an over-the-air television receiver.

45.   (Cancelled)

46.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 41, wherein the input device comprises a router/hub coupled with the Internet.

47.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 41, wherein the first platform comprises a digital video recorder.

48.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 41, wherein the first platform comprises a personal computer.

49.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 41, wherein the received content comprises a first layer of encryption to protect the received content from unauthorized rendering and a second layer of encryption to prevent unauthorized reception and retention of the received content.

50.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 41, wherein the received content is encoded in a compressed format.

51.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 50, wherein the compressed format comprises a format in accordance with one of the MPEG-1 standard, the MPEG-2 standard and the MPEG-4 standard.

52.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 51, wherein the compressed format comprises a compressed audio format in accordance with layer 3 of the MPEG-1 standard.

53.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 41, wherein the storage device comprises a hard disk drive.

54.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 41, wherein the storage device comprises an optical storage device.

55.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 54, wherein the optical storage device comprises a digital versatile disk drive.

56.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 41, wherein the second platform implements the interface for purchasing the right to render the received content in cooperation with the first platform.

57.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 41, wherein the first platform comprises:

              a decryptor that decrypts the media content;

a decoder that decodes the media content; and

a transcoder that converts the media content from a first format that is not renderable by the second platform to a second format that is renderable by the second platform and communicates the media content to the second platform.

58.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 57, wherein the first platform further comprises an encryptor for encrypting the media content prior to communicating the media content to the second platform; and wherein the second platform further comprises a decryptor for decrypting the media content as encrypted by the first platform.

59.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 41, wherein the second platform comprises:

an audio/video device including a decoder for converting the media content from an encoded format to a decoded, renderable format.

60.   (Withdrawn) A system for rendering media content comprising:

a media server comprising:

a device for receiving unrenderable media content from one or more content sources;

a storage device for retaining the media content;

a content management sub-system that provides for purchase of the right to render the media content at least one time by converting the content to a renderable format, management of the rendering of the media content including enforcing digital rights associated with the media

content, and controlling rendering of the media content in correspondence with terms of the purchase; and

a client device that is operatively coupled with, and discoverable by, the media server, wherein the client device comprises:

a rendering device;

a decoder for translating the media content from a first format to a second format, wherein the media content is communicated to the rendering device in the second format for playback;

a discovery sub-system that determines a subset of content playable by the rendering device within the unrenderable content contained on the media server; and

a content guide display that lists the subset of content;

wherein the media server and the client device cooperatively implement an interface to allow purchase of protected content and rendering of previously purchased content in correspondence with terms of a previous purchase using at least one of the media server and the client device.

61.   (Withdrawn) A media server comprising:

a dedicated media storage and serving device for retaining a plurality of units of media content;

a client platform manager including one or more parameters corresponding with functional attributes of at least one client platform;

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a media communication interface communicatively coupled to at least one media content source and to the client platform; and

a media content manager that provides for the purchase of the right to render the media content.

62.   (Withdrawn) The media server of claim 61 further comprising:

an asset manager to manage the rendering of the media content including enforcing digital rights associated with the media content, and controlling rendering of the media content in accordance with terms of the purchase.

63.   (Withdrawn) The media server of claim 61 further comprising:

a discovery service operable to perform network searches for content in accordance with at least one user preference.

64.   (Withdrawn) The media server of claim 63 wherein the discovery service operates in accordance with a content pay service provider protocol to communicate user preferences with a content pay service provider wherein the discovery service requests content in accordance with the user preference.

65.   (Withdrawn) The media server of claim 61 further comprising a content directory containing a user interface operable to display content stored in the dedicated media storage.

66. (Withdrawn) The media server of claim 65 wherein the content directory further comprises a purchase mechanism operable to input a user media selection for purchase, to communicate a purchase transaction with a content pay service provider connected to the data network, and to enable rendering of the selected media.

67. (Withdrawn) The media server of claim 66 further comprising a decrypter operable to decrypt the selected media upon completion of the purchase transaction.

68. (Withdrawn) The media server of claim 61 further comprising a decypter operable to decrypt content received from the at least one client platform.

69. (Withdrawn) The media server of claim 61 further comprising a media rendering function operable to render media selected for rendering on a rendering device.

70. (Withdrawn) A media client comprising:

      a media rendering device interface operable to communicate send renderable media to a media rendering device;

      a local discovery service that communicates with a media server to determine availability of media content that may be purchased by a user and made renderable upon completion of a purchase transaction;

      a media communication interface for communicating with the media server; and

      a decoder that converts the media content from an encoded format to a format that corresponds with the media rendering device.

71.   (Withdrawn) The media client of claim 70 further comprising:

        a content directory for displaying a list of titles corresponding with units of the
media content that the user may purchase and thereby send to the media rendering device
to render.

73.   (Withdrawn) The media client of claim 70 further comprising:

        a client manager operable to generate a user interface that displays at least one
title available for purchase and a query to perform a purchase transaction, the client
manager further being operable to convert the unrenderable media to a renderable format.

74.   (Withdrawn) The media client of claim 73 further comprising a decryptor operable to
decrypt encrypted media content upon completion of the purchase transaction, the decryption
producing a renderable format.

75.   (Withdrawn) The media client of claim 70 further comprising a decoder/decompressor
operable to convert the media in the renderable format to a media signal compatible with the
rendering device.

76.   (Withdrawn) A method for rendering media content on a pay-per-play basis comprising:

        receiving media content with a first device, wherein the media content comprises
at least one level of content unrenderability;

        storing the media content locally;

displaying a content guide comprising a listing describing the unrenderable media content;

receiving a request to purchase a rendering right for the protected media content, the request being generated from the content guide;

removing a first level of content unrenderability;

rendering the media content at least one time, wherein at least a part of the media content is rendered on a second device.

77. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 76, further comprising removing a second level of content unrenderability after receiving the media content and prior to storing the media content.

78. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 76, further comprising decoding and decompressing the media content prior to rendering the media content.

79. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 76, further comprising transcoding the media content from a first format to a second format prior to rendering the content, such that the transcoded media content is renderable by a selected rendering device.

80. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 76, wherein removing the first level of content unrenderability comprises decrypting the media content.

81. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 76, wherein removing the first level of content unrenderability comprises unlocking a data file including the media content.

82.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 76, wherein rendering the media content on the second device comprises providing a media content stream from the first device to the second device.

83.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 76, further comprising, prior to rendering the media content:

   removing the first level of content unrenderability with the first device;

   encrypting the media content with the first device;

   communicating the media content from the first device to the second device as an encrypted media stream; and

   decrypting the encrypted media stream with the second device.